



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 05711.0137

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Mitsuo HORIKAWA) Group Art Unit: 1771
)
Application No.: 10/046,286) Examiner: J. Boyd
)
Filed: January 16, 2002)
)
For: SLIDE FASTENER TAPE)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in Section 1.97(b) but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of either a Final action, Quayle action, or a Notice of Allowance. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement includes a certification as specified by Section 1.97(e).

Each document listed in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from the European Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, and this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the mailing date of that communication. Copies of the listed documents, including any copending patent applications, are attached.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claims in the application and Applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: December 31, 2003

By: 

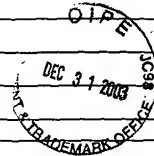
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	05711.0137	Appln. No.	10/046,286
Applicant	Mitsuo HORIKAWA		
Filing Date	January 16, 2002	Group:	1771



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
	4,383,558	05/17/1983	Tsubata et al.			
	4,444,026	04/24/1984	Matsuda			
	4,319,387	03/16/1982	Yoshida			

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	European Search Report for Application No. EP 02 00 0402 dated October 16, 2003

Examiner	Date Considered
<p>*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</p>	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce



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Datum/Date

16.10.03

Zeichen/Ref./Réf.

NF-2256

Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°/Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°.

02000402.4-2314-

Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur/Patentinhaber/Proprietor/Titulaire
YKK CORPORATION

COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits as an enclosure the European search report for the above-mentioned European patent application.

If applicable, copies of the documents cited in the European search report are attached.

☒ Additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the European search report is (are) enclosed as well.

The following specifications given by the applicant have been approved by the Search Division:

☒ abstract

☒ title

☐ The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to this communication.

The following figure will be published together with the abstract: 1

REFUND OF THE SEARCH FEE

If applicable under Article 10 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.





European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 02 00 0402

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
A	US 4 383 558 A (TSUBATA NORITAKA ET AL) 17 May 1983 (1983-05-17) * column 2, line 29 - column 3, line 10 * * column 4, line 49 - line 60; claims 1,3,5,6; figures 1,2 * ---	1-5	A44B19/34 D03D1/00
A,D	US 4 444 026 A (MATSUDA YOSHIO) 24 April 1984 (1984-04-24) * column 2, line 31 - column 3, line 40; claim 1; figures 1-5 * ---	1-5	
A	US 4 319 387 A (YOSHIDA HIROSHI) 16 March 1982 (1982-03-16) * column 3, line 20 - column 4, line 15; claim 1; figures 1-3 * -----	1	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			A44B D03D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 24 September 2003	Examiner Horubala, T
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X: particularly relevant if taken alone Y: particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A: technological background O: non-written disclosure P: intermediate document		T: theory or principle underlying the invention E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D: document cited in the application L: document cited for other reasons &: member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

EP 02 00 0402

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

24-09-2003

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ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

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